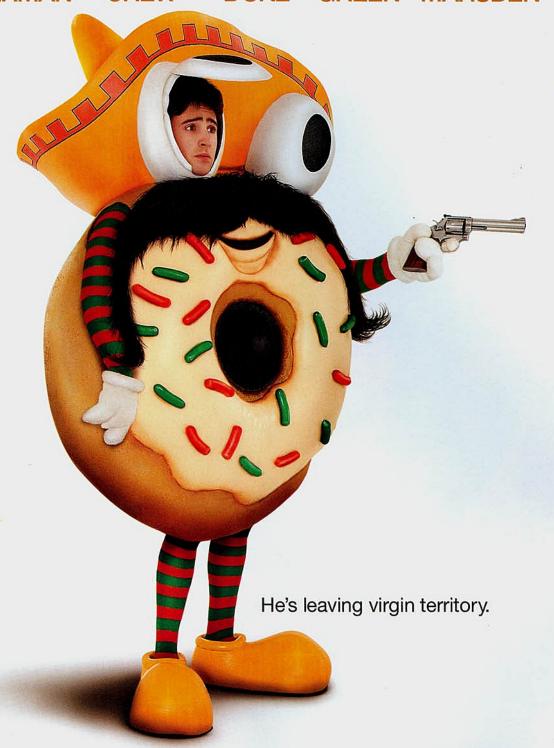


JOSH ZUCKERMAN **AMANDA** AND JAMES



















IN THE NICKNAME OF TIME

Thank you so much for making "Calvin and Jobs." I used to love *Calvin and Hobbes* and I loved the parody you guys did. I also like how you did the same thing with *Cathy* and Amy Winehouse. Why wasn't The Strip Club in last month's issue? It's one of the best parts of the magazine. And where did Bitterman go? P.S. Don't make fun of my name with Gryffindor because that isn't that original.

Griffin Benzel, letters@madmagazine.com

Gryffindor — We never claimed we were original. Thanks for reading! —Ed.

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

There is a long story behind this note card. My aunt gave them to me when she saw my Bar Mitzvah thank you notes. I tried not to choke from laughing and throwing up at the same time. So for my dumb wish, I would like you to publish the front of this note card, but somehow vandalized.



Andrew Rybczynski, Baltimore, MD

Rybeye — At the Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™, we're all about making readers wishes come true. But in your case, how can we possibly mess with perfection and vandalize such an impeccable work of art? We would be doing Red Farm Studios (the makers of this card) a disservice. Please thank your aunt for us, because the only thing that needs changing is your attitude! Congratulations on becoming a man! —Ed.

READER ALERT



Election Day is coming up, which means Alfred E. Neuman needs as much help as possible if he's going to lose in style. So we're asking you, dear readers, to take the poster in this very issue and hang it in a store window, on a telephone pole, even at the voting booths. Take a picture of your handiwork and we'll print the best ones in an upcoming issue. Remember, if we all work together, we can secure an Alfred victory and America can have its dumbest President yet! (Well, second dumbest!) Send pics to letters@madmagazine.com or via snail mail to Amy "The Big Poster" Vozeolas, c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, NY, NY 10019.

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

When I found out Bill Clinton would be stumping for Hillary at my old middle school (East Middle, Martinsville, IN), was my first thought to go and hear his take on all of Hillary's presidential ideas? No! My first thought was to go and get the former-Commander-in-Chief of all Celebrity Snaps! Well, as our current Commander-in-Chief would say, "Mission Accomplished" (for real)!

Brenner Williams, Martinsville, IN

Brenner Off Dead — Great snap! But we have a question — was there an open bar at this event? Bubba is looking a little tipsy! Congrats on your three-year subscription! —Ed.





TURNING DAUGHTER INTO WHINE

I just wanted to ask the powers that be if they have any insight into what has happened to my 11-year-old daughter? My daughter stayed three weeks during the summer with her cousin in hotter-than-hell Phoenix, Arizona. Anyway, when I arrived at the airport to pick her up, I did not recognize her right away because she had a short bob with bright purple streaks in her hair, she wore all black with black skinny jeans, black slip-ons, black nail polish, black bag and a MAD magazine under her arm (and an apathetic, sarcastic attitude to boot)! I wanted to blame her aunt and cousin at first, but upon further in-depth inspection of said magazine, I have come to the conclusion that they are not entirely responsible.

Christina Collins, Vista, CA

Collinoscopy — She's dressed all in black and reading MAD? Sounds like she's mourning the death of her good taste! —Ed.



SILENI HILL. HOMECOMING







Blood and Gore Intense Violence Language Sexual Themes



XBOX 360.4

PLAYSTATION 3



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THE SOAK'S ON YOU

Earlier, when I was getting out of my bath, I almost spilled water on my new issue of MAD! It was so close that I now do not read my MAD in the tub anymore. I cannot take the risk of it getting wet.

Nikki Franda, Plano, TX

Franda Comes Alive — You've uncovered the reason why most MAD readers don't bathe! Enjoy the new-found freedom, Stinky! —Ed.



GESTURE AVERAGE READER

I am a sixth-grade student at Brentwood Elementary School in Spokane, WA. My teacher told us to write to our absolute favorite business. So, naturally I chose you. The first time I read one of your issues I thought I would die laughing. Please, if it is not an inconvenience, I would appreciate a small token from your incomparable organization to prove to my teacher and classmates that you are the best company on the face

of the Earth. Please accept my apology for taking up your most valuable time and thank you in advance for anything you might send my way.

Evan Carpenter, Spokane, WA

Wall To Wall Carpenter — Here's a small token from us to you! —Ed.



THE BIG FLAG PART DEUX

When we asked our readers to design their own MAD flags, we received so many that we couldn't fit them all in one issue! Below are the rest of the salute-worthy submissions! Thanks to all who sent flags in!





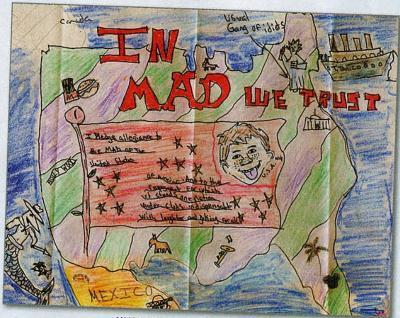
JACOB McDANIEL, FRANKFORT, IN



BRYCE WASLAK, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA



TOMMY LA VOY, CHEVERLY, MD



YAHAWA ASHAQUA, PUERTO RICO

ORIGINAL ART AUCTION

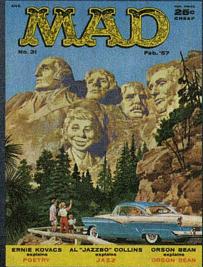
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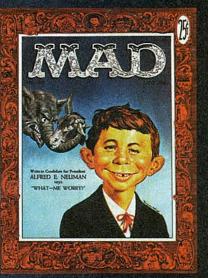
Featuring art by: **Norman Mingo Kelly Freas Bob Clarke Richard Williams Jack Rickard Jack Davis** Sergio Aragonés

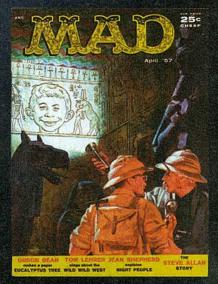












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MAD INTERNS



We'd like to take this opportunity to give a gracious shout out to our 2008 Summer interns: on the editorial side, Jacobus Dixon, Michael Grinspan, Matt Lassen and Jon Marquis; and on the art side, Erin Miller, Laurie Sanford and Aaron Sidorov. Thank you for all of your hard work — we hope you got it out of your system and will go out and get real jobs now!

















READER ALERT II

If your letter was printed in this month's Letters Page you'll be adding to your DVD collection! You'll get The Incredible Hulk on DVD courtesy of our friends at Universal Home Video, Iron Man on DVD courtesy of our friends at Paramount and the collector's set DVD of Hell In A Cell courtesy of our friends at the WWE. If your missive wasn't printed, don't put yourself in a full nelson, they are all on sale now!







COMING UP IN MAD #496. ON SALE NOVEMBER 11!

WE KICK GEORGE W. **BUSH ONE LAST TIME!** PLUS AN AL JAFFEE 2009 CALENDAR!

COMING UP IN MAD KIDS #13. ON SALE NOVEMBER II!

THE 2009 MAD KIDS CALENDAR, SPY VS. SPY, JR. AND BRAND NEW GAMES & INTERVIEWS!



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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS

the usual gang of idiots

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MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

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An important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development,

JEFFREY LOZENGE

It was once said, "Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes." It was also once said, "Don't shoot!" And it was also once said, "Please pass the chicken gravy."

My point is that people say a lot of things. And I say a lot of things too, for example, everything I just said. Which brings me to MAD — yes, MAD — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — also says a lot of things. But the less said about that

the better.

Someone else who wasn't me once said, "Give me liberty or give me death." Whoa Nellie! (This is me talking again, not that other guy who wasn't me.) Who wouldn't choose liberty over death? That's a no-brainer!

"Give me liberty or give me MAD!" That's a tougher one. But thanks to the brave soldiers of the American Revolution you don't have to decide!

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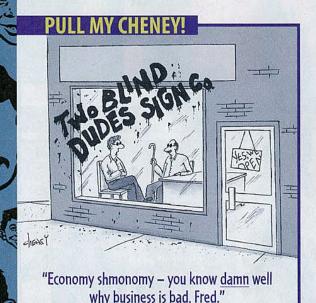
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THE FUNDALINI PAGES



ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF HIGH DEF TV

ADVANTAGE

When watching Blake Lively on Gossip Girl you can tell when they're keeping the show's set just a little too cold - if you know what we mean.



When watching Bill O'Reilly you can see that the pancake makeup doesn't quite cover the "666" birthmark on his forehead.



Grey's Anatomy in high def is so detailed, people without medical insurance can learn how to perform their own surgery!

DISADVANTAGE

When watching America's Next Top Model you can see the thin line of dried-up vomit around the mouths of several models.

DISADVANTAGE

24 becomes REALLY unbelievable when you can clearly see that Jack Bauer doesn't have a single scar after 5 years of being shot, blown up, beat up and run over!

ADVANTAGE

TALKING POINTS

When you watch Extreme Makeover: Home Edition you won't feel bad about your own screwed-up home improvements - now that you can see the sloppy paint jobs, cracked ceilings, and crooked nails from Ty Pennington trying to rebuild an entire home in just 5 days.

OUTTAKES FROM JOHN EDWARD'S NIGHTLINE IN



I wanted to prove that Ann Coulter's "faggot" comment was simply not true.

I guess I'm just a sucker for a woman with hair as beautiful as mine.

I did a lot of soul-searching about whether to speak at the Democratic Convention, and had to ask myself: How hot are the women in Denver?







Can we move the camera a few feet over so it can get my good side?





I did not have sex with that woman.... Miss Lewinsky.







WATCH IT LIVE ALL SUMMER LONG ON NBC, MTV, MTV2, AND USA





























Your brilliant
Streak of decision-making continues,
Mr. Whine!

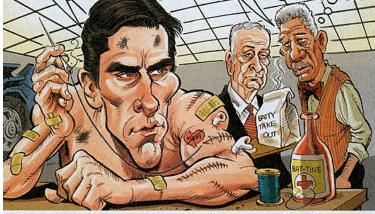
Lordy, I KNEW
I should have left some room for cross-ventilation inside that mask of his!

The two men in my life finally meet, face to face! It's a ticklish personal situation, but you're handling it with class, maturity and sophistication!

You
know it!
I've got
sophistication
running
out
my ass!

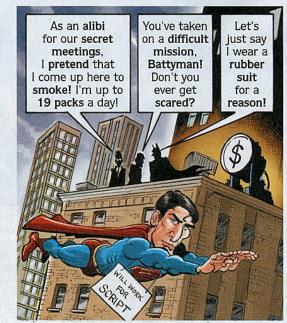
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Well, that sets the "boyfriend bar" nice and low! As long as I refrain from picking my nose during sex, I'm golden!





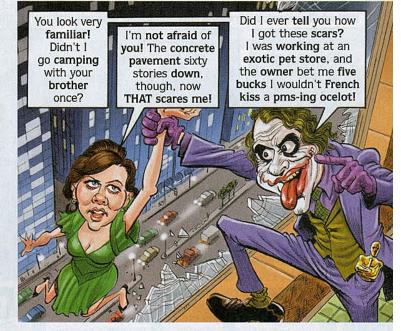


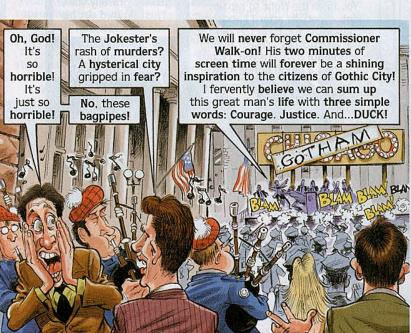




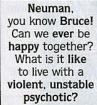


That speech
was still more
heartfelt and
sincere than
when Hillary
Clinton
endorsed
Obama!









It's a breeze! I was Naomi Campbell's butler for two years!



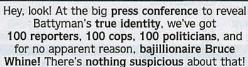
Perhaps chance will make you reveal the Jokester's plans! Heads, and this scene becomes a clumsy analogy challenging the primacy of eternal civil liberties in an insecure world. Tails, and my story acquires a tragic arc, dramatizing the limits of situational ethics!

Don't do it! I'll unmask instead.

Only one of us can be a living metaphor for the internal struggle between the stated needs of the state, and the realpolitik ambiguity of their ultimate attainment! Only my actions can simultaneously undermine and validate the principle of Kantian autonomy!

There's nothing
like a philosophical
impasse between
a guy flipping a coin
and a guy with
pointy ears! When do
we get a damn car
chase around here?



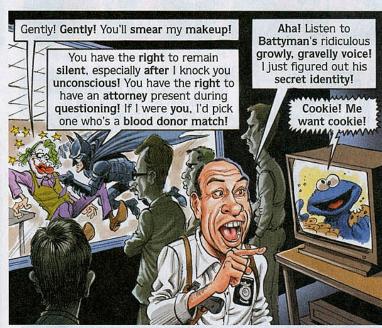


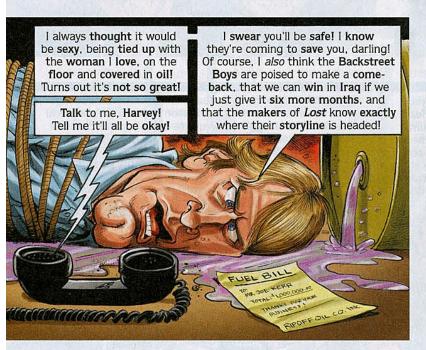
This is a Battyman press conference? Phooey! I assumed it was yet another elected official admitting that they're gay! Remember, the night is darkest just before the dawn! The only thing to fear is fear itself! United we stand, divided we fall! Snug as a bug in a rug! The squeaky wheel gets the grease! And now, since I've run out of vapid clichés, you may arrest me! I am Battyman!

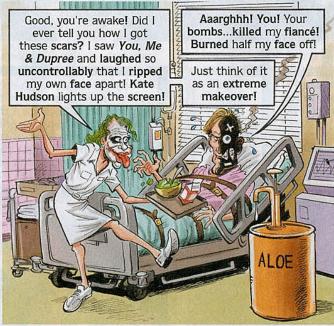








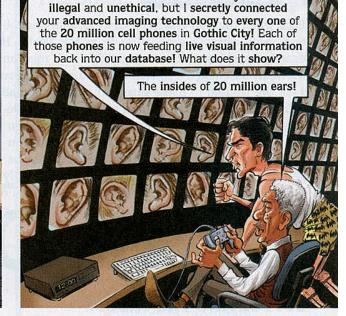




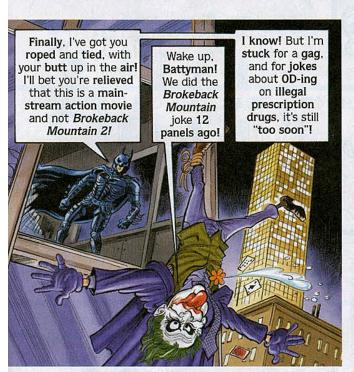
The Jokester's plot is diabolically simple! Somehow he guessed which two ferryboats to put two bombs on. Each boat has a detonator! But our detonator is connected to the OTHER ship's bomb, and vice versa! Either boat can save itself from being killed by exploding the other boat! However, one group of passengers must trigger its detonator by midnight, or else Jokester will blow up BOTH boats! That is, unless the Jokester deliberately provided false information about the detonators, the deadline, or the...

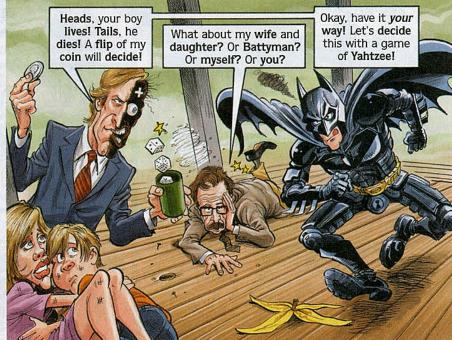
SHUT UP! SHUT
UP! Push the
button already!
Getting blown
to pieces will
be a pleasure
after all that
nonsense!





The Jokester must be located at any cost! It's







But wouldn't it be even easier to blame the murders on Jokester? Maybe! But this is the best plan I can suggest right now! I just hope my thinking hasn't been too affected by the fact that I just fell four stories and probably have a grade-2 concussion!



Now that you're being hunted by the police, I've whipped up a snazzy cloaking device for your Battymobile! It'll help you escape detection as you drive on your nightly patrols!

Forget it! I can't afford to keep running the Battymobiles anymore, plus the Battycycle, and a Battyplane besides. With current gasoline prices, I'm bankrupt!



Back when the Iraq War started, we couldn't help but notice that the buzzwords and catch phrases emanating from the White House and Pentagon weren't exactly meshing with reality. With the mission already accomplished, we hurriedly assembled a collection of examples and rushed them into print in MAD #438. We wanted to make sure that our article made it to publication before the

war ended, Iraq was quiet, and all the troops were already home. As it turned out, we could have taken our sweet time about it. So what's the situation on the ground four years later? The oil might be getting scarce, but the B.S. is flowing just as freely as ever! And so, we present

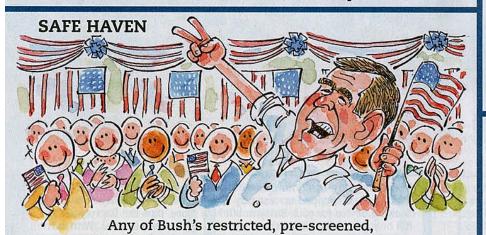
the second of what we never thought would turn out to be a long, long series...

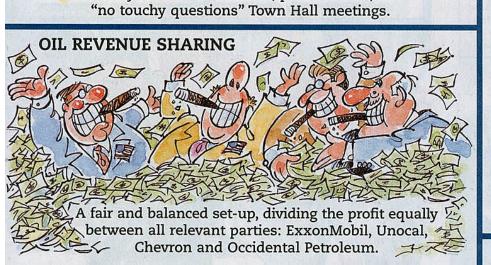
MAD'S UPDATED SSARY

WAR ON TERROR



Keeping them far, far away from the decaying hellholes that are our Veterans' Hospitals.





EXTRAORDINARY RENDITION

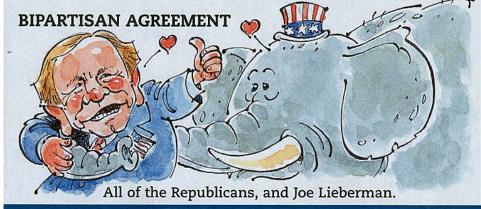


The "high C" note a prisoner makes when 25,000 volts get shot through his nutsack.

PRISON TORTURE SCANDAL



The horrible, scandalous fact that somebody blabbed about the prison torture.





The three-fourths of Americans who, according to the polls, don't think Bush is doing a darned good job.

"PROVIDING AID AND COMFORT TO THE ENEMY" \$5.00 per gallon.





Getting one's ass booted from the Bush inner circle, and then claiming you were secretly against the war all along.

"THE SURGE IS WORKING"

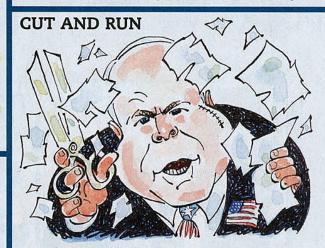


The last thing noticed by the dozen U.S. soldiers who've been electrocuted in the shower by the ungrounded wires installed by incompetent Halliburton profiteers.

THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL



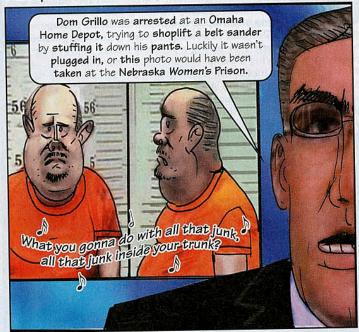
Something Iraqis enjoy, during the 2 hours a day Baghdad has electricity.



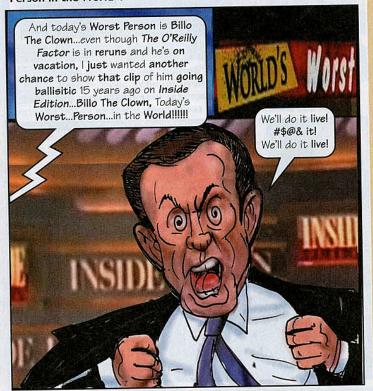
A phrase which, oddly, is most often used by the same politicians who cut our soldiers' combat pay, cut their furloughs, and cut their insurance and health benefits, and then run for reelection as gung-ho patriots.

MONTH: COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN

Olbermann lightens the mood with his "Best Persons in the World" segment, focusing on the mishaps of dumb criminals, drunk criminals, or dumb drunk criminals. (But not the ones who fly on Air Force One.) The final miscreant gets an extra-special reward: their very own ironically-chosen music snippet.



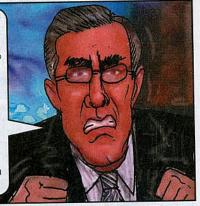
Rush Limbaugh mocks others. Sean Hannity insults them. Ann Coulter reduces them to simplistic cartoons. There's only one intelligent way to rise above this kind of stupid, hyperbolic Right-Wing rudeness: Call them "The Worst Person in the World"!



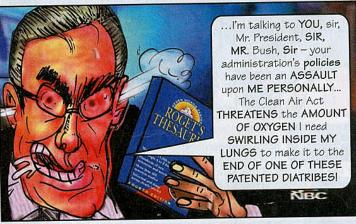
With scathing multisyllabic anger, Keith Olbermann launches into one of his "Special Comments." These extra-long opinion pieces only appear on the rare occasions when Olbermann is sufficiently moved by the maelstrom of political events to scrutinize the particulars for posterity. Or else when Michael Musto cancels and they have to fill time.

Now I get to recycle the same complaints from today's show, but in essay form. Some say I'm providing a great service to America. That's ridiculous.

I say I'm providing THE great service to America. Did that Colonial nobody Thomas Paine ever get 200,000 hits on YouTube? Try "zero." So while my mouth is forever saying "Shame on you, Mr. Bush," my heart is saying "Thank you for giving me a career."

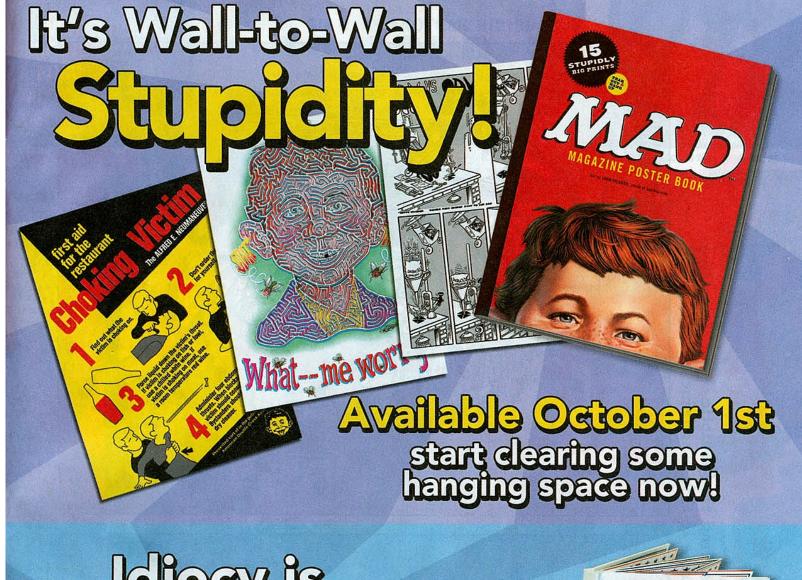


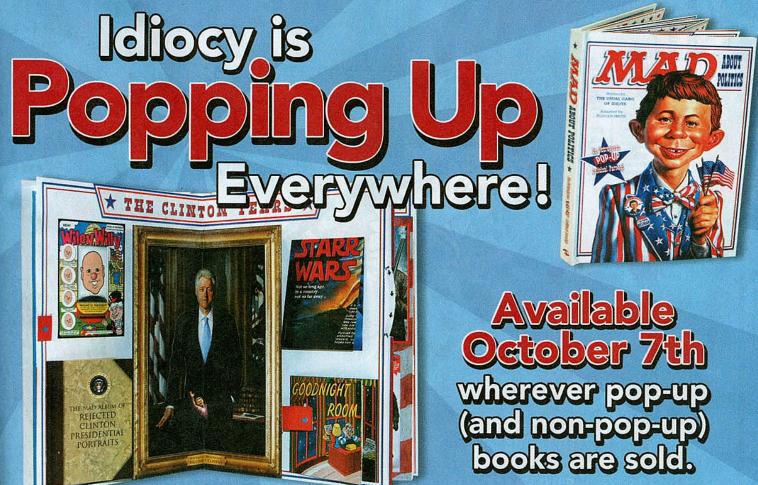
Eight minutes and six sentences later, the "Special Comment" nears its finish. It's the third densest chunk of words on television, after the "express written consent of major league baseball" disclaimer, and the list of disgusting side effects from boner pills.

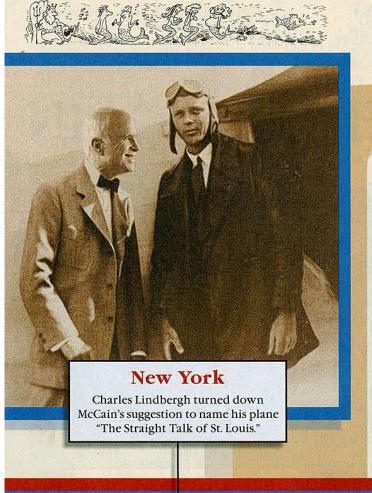


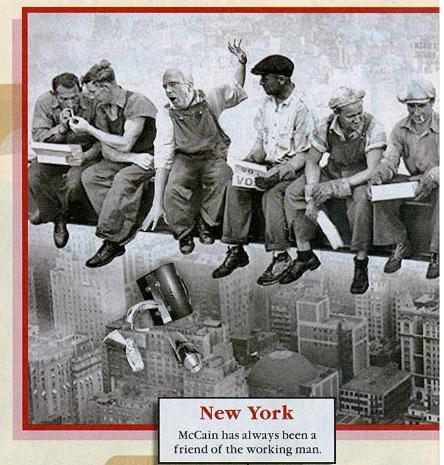
In one final explosion of egomaniacal klepto-indulgence, Olbermann steals Ted Koppel's "number of days since..." nightly update, Edward R. Murrow's signoff line AND David Letterman's glass-breaking paper gag.











1927 -

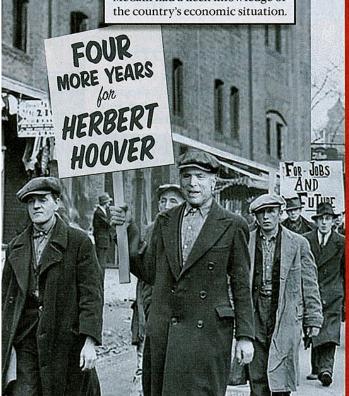
1930

1932 •

1945

Washington, DC

During the Great Depression, McCain had a keen knowledge of the country's economic situation.



Yalta

Even in the dying days of World War II, McCain expressed a willingness to continue fighting the Germans and Japanese for the next 100 years.



Lower the government's National Threat Level to green! Its...

MONROE



Domestic Terror















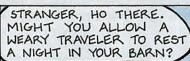








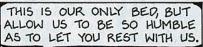
if only nutis uhen i augh there, there now



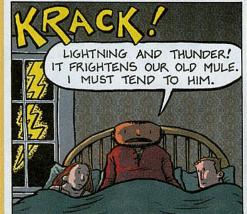
THERE BE NO NEED TO SLEEP IN THE BARN. COME ALONG INSIDE, WHAT'S OURS IS YOURS.











HE'S GONE, HANDSOME STRANGER. AND WHAT'S OURS IS YOURS, SO NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP YOURSELF.





HOW TO
DUMP AN
INVISIBLE
MAN!





SEN LELIEVRE





























The Family Follies!









ROB HARREL

ME, MYSELF AND MY PUPPET









JOHN KOVALESKI

THE ROOMMATES: JOHN, JOE AND JERRY











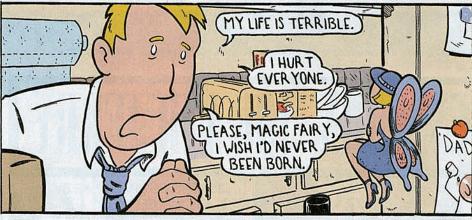


JUST BELOW THE SURFACE



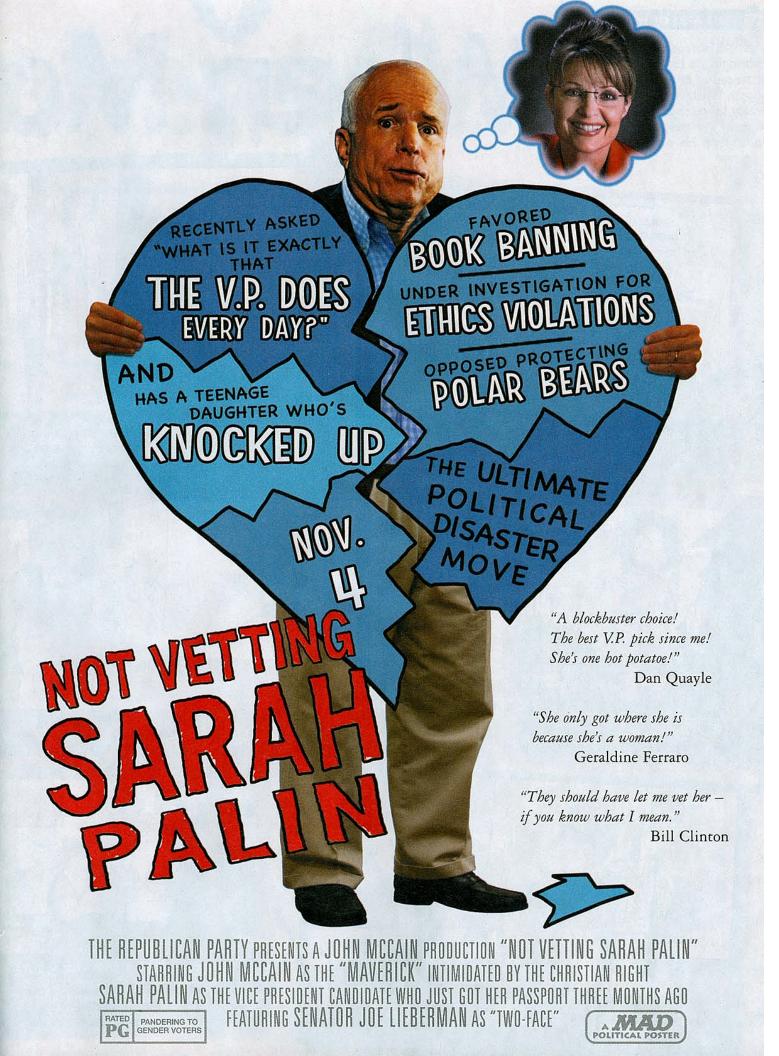










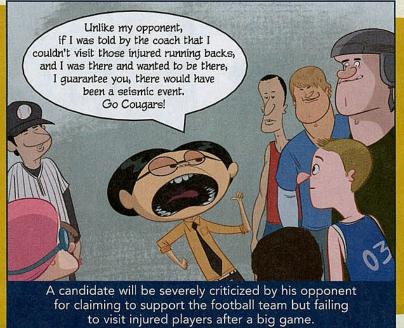


The road to the White House is paved with wild accusations and vicious name-calling. The halls of high school also house their share of rumors and taunts, but for some reason, class elections are relatively civil (except, of course, for an occasional pantsing). With all eyes on election coverage this year, the dirty and despicable tactics used in the presidential race are bound to inspire the political hopefuls running for student government. Here's what to expect...

WHEN : PRESIDENT

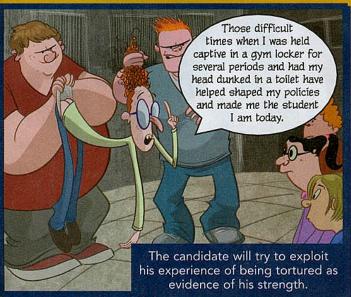


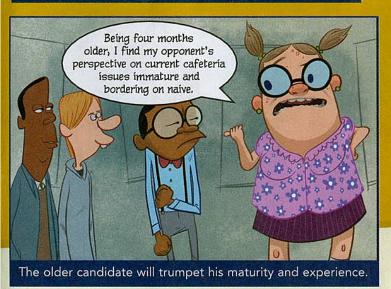




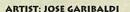


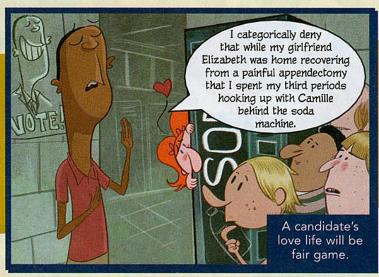


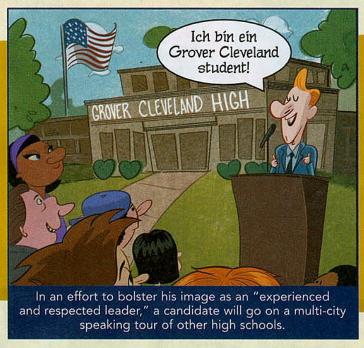




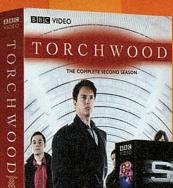
WRITER: NATHANIEL STEIN











B B C VIDEO







the office complete series one & two and the special



The New British Shape of the New British Shape of the Sha

Available at amazon.com

WHO'S MADE
A FORTUNE
COLLECTING
AND PACKAGING
GARBAGE?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD - IN

There are many entities getting rich by taking garbage and forcing it on the public. But there's one culprit in particular that's been very animated about it. To find out who is downright cartoonish in their exploitation of trash, fold page in as shown.





SLEEK NEW GARBAGE RECYCLERS ARE ALMOST CRAZY CELEBRATING THEIR NEWFOUND SUCCESS. BUT IT'S A PITY GOOD IDEAS SO OFTEN GO BAD. IT'S DIFFICULT ASSESSING THEIR IMPACT. THE FORMULA IS TO SHIP MORE GARBAGE IN WITHOUT RAISING PEOPLE'S ANGER





WHO'S MADE
A FORTUNE
COLLECTING
AND PACKAGING
GARBAGE?

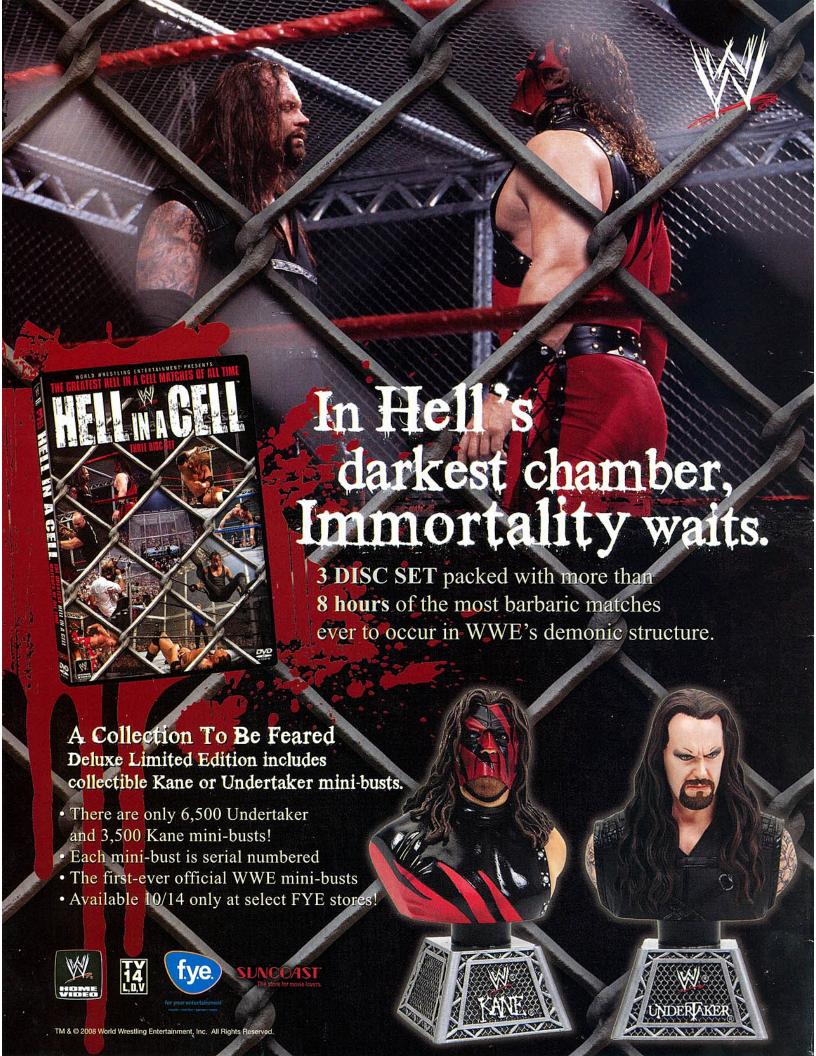


FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



SLEAZY CELEBRITY GOS-SIP MONGER





THE FUNDALINI

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HEAR DURING THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

If elected, you wouldn't actually root for the President to die, would you?

What kind of Vice President will you be: evil like Dick Cheney, bumbling like Dan Quayle, or boring like Al Gore?

If there's one thing you'd like to tell both of our viewers, what would it be?

Who's on your short list for Vice President when you run in 2016?

Is your spouse prepared to take over the duty of leading White House tours?

Tell me, Gov. Palin: McCain's just playing a prank, right?

Were you anxiously awaiting word of whether or not you were the pick, or were you like the rest of America?

What would you do in Iraq if....ah, forget it. It's not like you'll be in a position of power.



Gov. Palin, you were in a group

that favored Alaskan secession.

What are your views on kicking New Jersey out of the Union?

FUNDALINI VOTER GUIDE TO THIRD PARTY CANDIDATES



Jethro Gruntman

Age: 57

Party: Retrogressive

Family: A hand puppet named Koko

Occupation: Frontiersman

Previous Political Experience: Tried to

overthrow the Governor of Montana.

Quoted Recently: "When I tell you I'm the best man for the job, I'm actually exaggerating a little."



Heinrich von Boffo

Age: 35

Party: Gin-Dependent

Family: None (still a virgin)

Occupation: Hibachi Demonstrator

Previous Political Experience: Elected to

Student Council in Grade 5.

Major Campaign Issue: Plans to reduce drunk driving rates by quadrupling the legal blood-alcohol content level.



Dogstar Zamana

Age: 60

Party: Anti-Polygraph

Occupation: False Messiah

Family: Wife who died mysteriously in 1993; three sons Previous Political Experience: Tried to call Rush Limbaugh a few times, but couldn't get through.

Possible Skeletons in Closet: Has attempted to prove he isn't racist by displaying his huge collection of Asian porn.



Claxton Baker

Age: 86

Party: Smoke & Mirrors

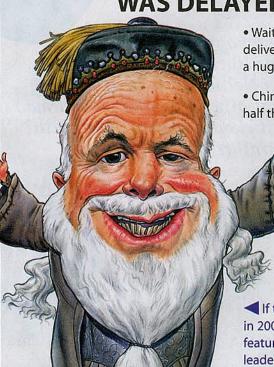
Occupation: Blackjack dealer

Family: His five other distinct personalities

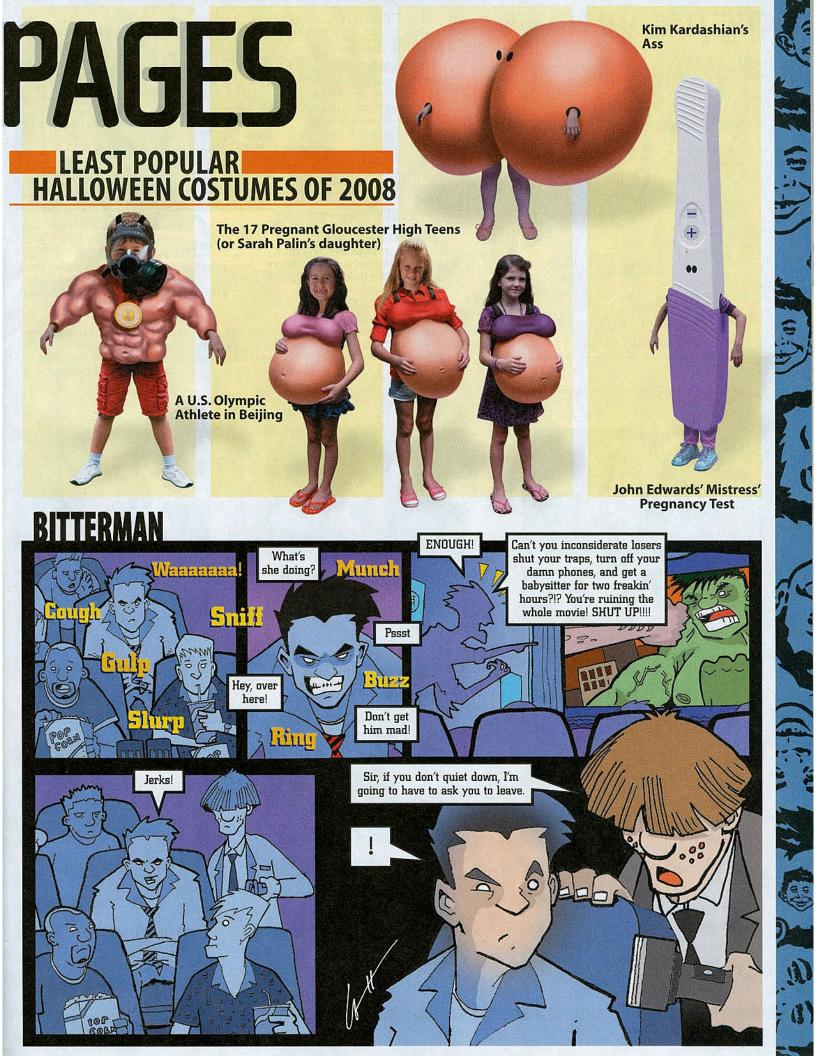
Previous Political Experience: Watches C-SPAN a lot.
Campaign Liability: Always seems to work a Helen

Keller joke into each stump speech.

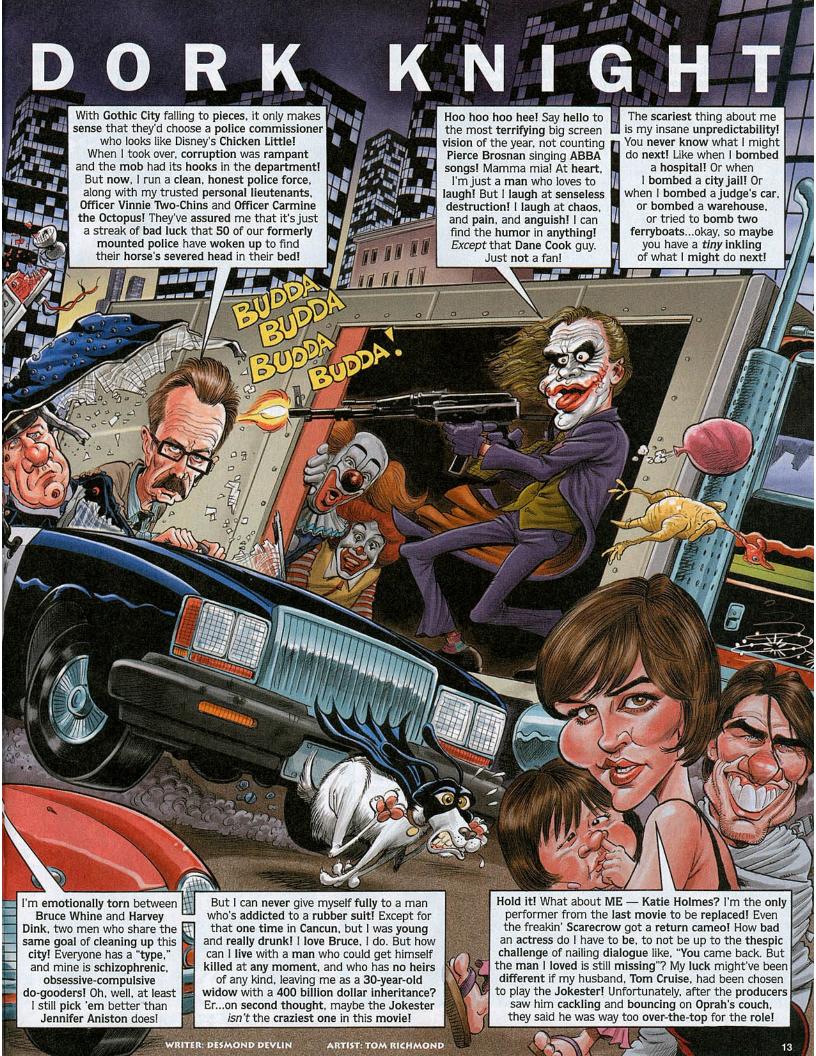
THE "REAL" REASONS Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince WAS DELAYED



- Waiting for Axl Rose to deliver the soundtrack was a huge mistake.
- Chinese-made wands gave half the cast lead poisoning.
 - They ran out of film, because in 2008, almost all available film stock was commandeered for getting shots of Angelina and Brad's twins.
- If the film had come out in 2008, all the commercials featuring a powerful, wrinkly leader would have been misinterpreted as McCain campaign ads.
- Contract negotiations with the Owls' Union broke down.









RESEND AND LOOK A





















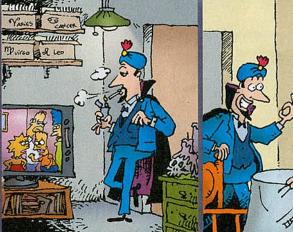














WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES





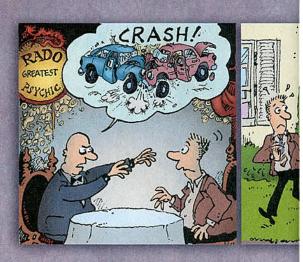
























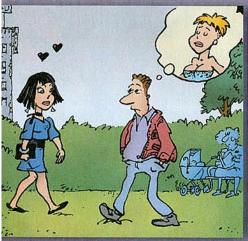


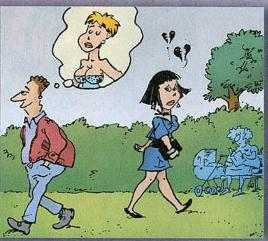








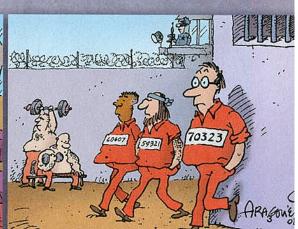














POLITICAL

To make a great news show, you need a likeable, knowledgeable host who has a calming, even-handed approach to the news. He should have keen, fresh insights into the events of the day and be able to express them clearly and concisely. But until we find that show...

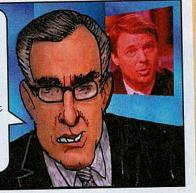
MADDE TVTalks

We hear the first words from Keith Olbermann: "Which of these stories will you be talking about tomorrow?" Chances are it'll be the same ones as yesterday. Because Countdown basically only DOES one story. Republicans suck — we get it!



Time for the lead story. If there's one thing that Keith Olbermann will not stand for, it's a cheap and crooked allegation against a Democrat. Countdown schedules time for wronged officials to rebut the newest attacks and provides exhaustive fact-checking to expose the hypocrisy of the Right. Because at the end of the day, the one thing Keith WILL stand for is a cheap and crooked allegation against the G.O.P.

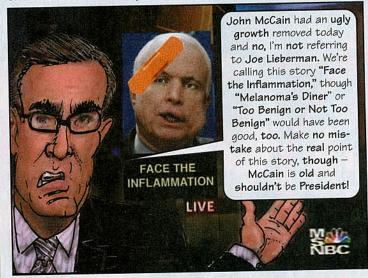
...and if we believe what John
Edwards is saying, and we have
absolutely no reason NOT to, the
morning he impregnated his
mistress he changed his party
affiliation to Republican, and
went back to the Democrats the
following day. It's clear to me, as it
should be to you, then, that this
is a REPUBLICAN scandal, something that Rupert Murdoch's Faux
Noise has yet to acknowledge...



To break up the monotony of Olbermann bitchslapping Republicans all by himself, the first of Countdown's grumbling heads gives his view about why the Republicans bite. And what a lineup: a "thinks-the-same-way" MSNBC host, a disgraced Nixon henchman, or a sleepwalking Newsweek reporter. The last time we saw balls that big, Indiana Jones was running away from one.



Olbermann moves on to Story #2, which isn't that different from Story #1. It's kind of like driving from Nebraska to Kansas, in that the landscape is so similar, you're not really sure you've gone anywhere until you spot a road sign. Here, the road sign is a clearly marked "title" to the news story, using one of Countdown's ubiquitous puns.



Keith now lets members of the media give their detailed opinions about how the media gets the details wrong. These are the same talking heads that repeatedly screw up the polling data...they salivated over the way Fred Thompson was going to "shake up" the GOP race...they wrung their hands waiting anxiously for the super-delegates to flip the nomination to Hillary...they even took Rudy Giuliani seriously, for God's sake!



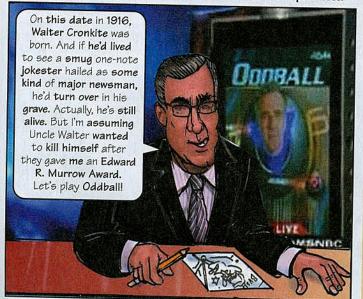
constructs

10 WITH COUNTDOWN KEITH OLBERMANN

Next, Olbermann blasts George W. Bush for living in an echo chamber filled with yes men and ignoring outside viewpoints. He does this from a hermetically-sealed television studio in the presence of off-camera MSNBC staffers who chuckle heartily at the same quips they just copy-edited and typed into Keith's teleprompter.



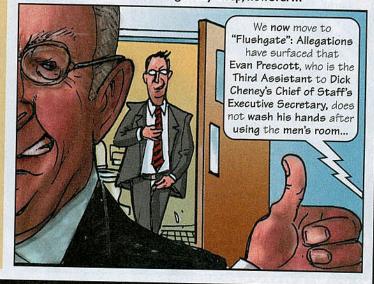
Keith commemorates something truly noteworthy that happened that day - the birth of Gandhi, or the discovery of the Salk vaccine, or Jackie Robinson breaking baseball's color barrier. This 20-second mention is followed by two full minutes of time-wasting, inconsequential tripe. It's Olbermann's one tip of the hat to current network news practices.



The world isn't really getting weirder, it's just being videotaped more. On the funky footage segment called "Oddball," a boa constrictor is good. A panda is better. A boa constrictor eating a panda is better still. A boa constrictor marrying a panda is a smidge better than that. Whereas a robot boa constrictor fighting a robot panda to the death on a Japanese game show is what we all live for. Because after a bland diet of campaign finance reform flipflops and offshore drilling talking points, viewers need the cleansing sorbet of a shirtless dwarf getting stuck in a toll booth coin basket.

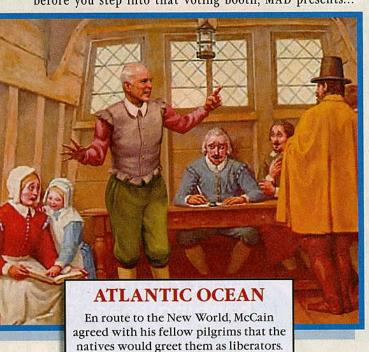


Next up is the "Bushed" segment, the nightly reveal of scandals plaguing W and company. Presenting a fresh trinity of disgraces every night does push the Countdown researchers to dig really deep, however...

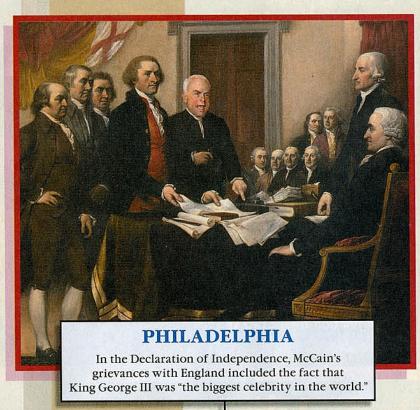




Recently Bill Clinton said, "You could argue that no one is ever ready to be president." And the former Commanderin-Chief may have a point. But experience couldn't hurt in preparing someone for the Oval Office – and that's where John "Ready to lead from day one" McCain really excels. In fact, no presidential candidate in our nation's history has even come close to sporting the GOP nominee's lifetime experiences. To give you all the information necessary before you step into that voting booth, MAD presents...



ALook AT THE TISTORICAL



1620 -

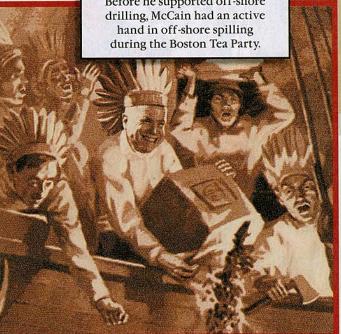
1773

1776 -

1777 1

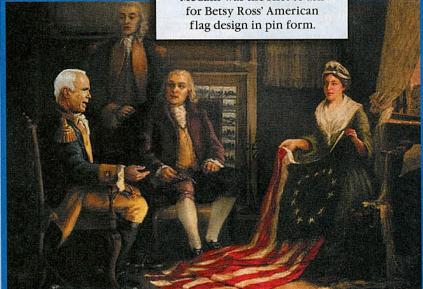
BOSTON HARBOR

Before he supported off-shore drilling, McCain had an active hand in off-shore spilling



PHILADELPHIA

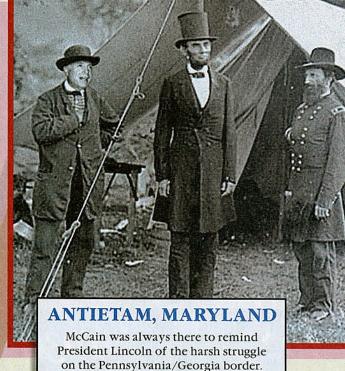
McCain was the first to ask for Betsy Ross' American flag design in pin form.



Back

CAREER OF OHN VCCAIN





1805 -

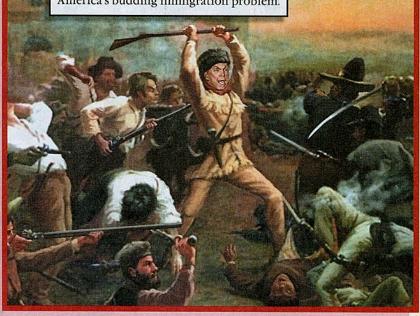
1836

1862 -

1882

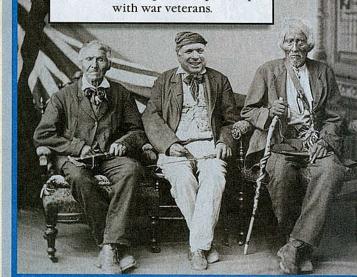
TEXAS

Remember the Alamo? McCain does. It was there that McCain helped solve America's budding immigration problem.



MAINE

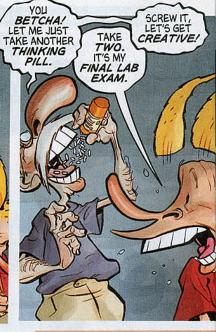
Even in the early days of photography, McCain saw the power of photo-ops with war veterans.



























Maybe it's because of a bad upbringing, a history of drug abuse or traces of zebra dung in the water supply. Whatever the cause, it's not pretty to watch and has the potential to make entire species turn against each other. Here's what happens...

When we





He shocks the bejabbers out of the Darwinian Research Team by suddenly walking "erect," if you know what we're saying.



Practices inappropriate use of the prehensile tail.



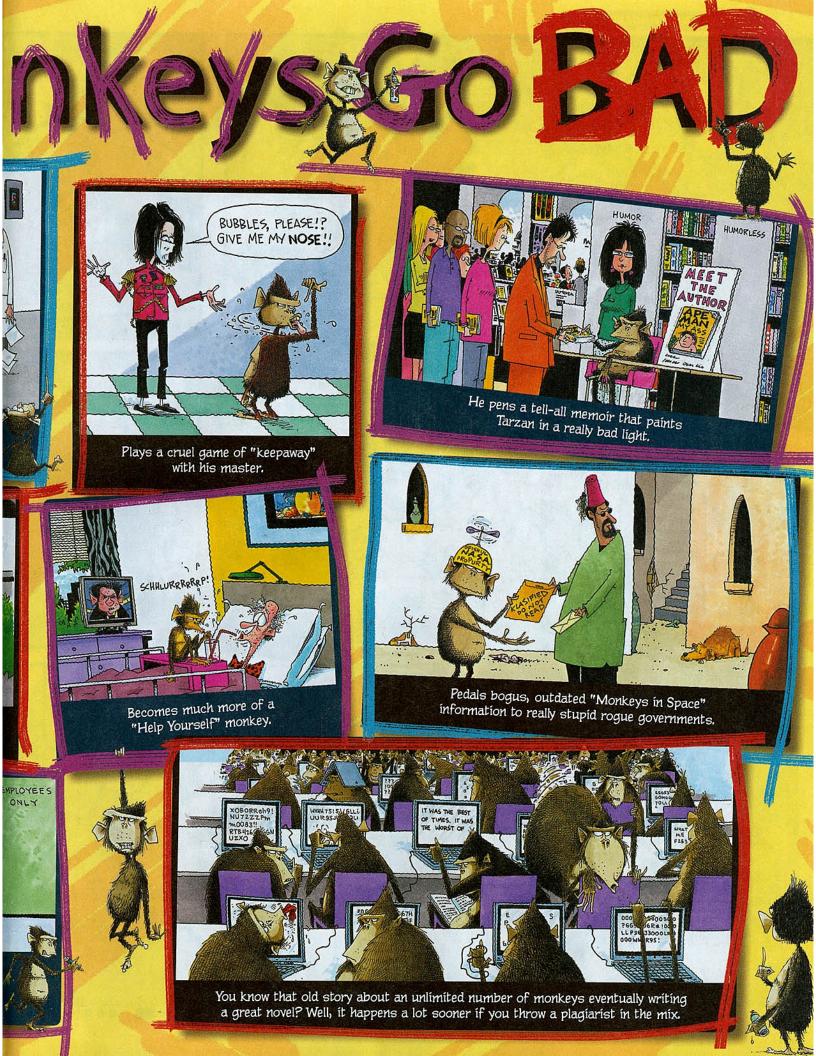
Incidences of banana peel-related "accidents" become much more commonplace.



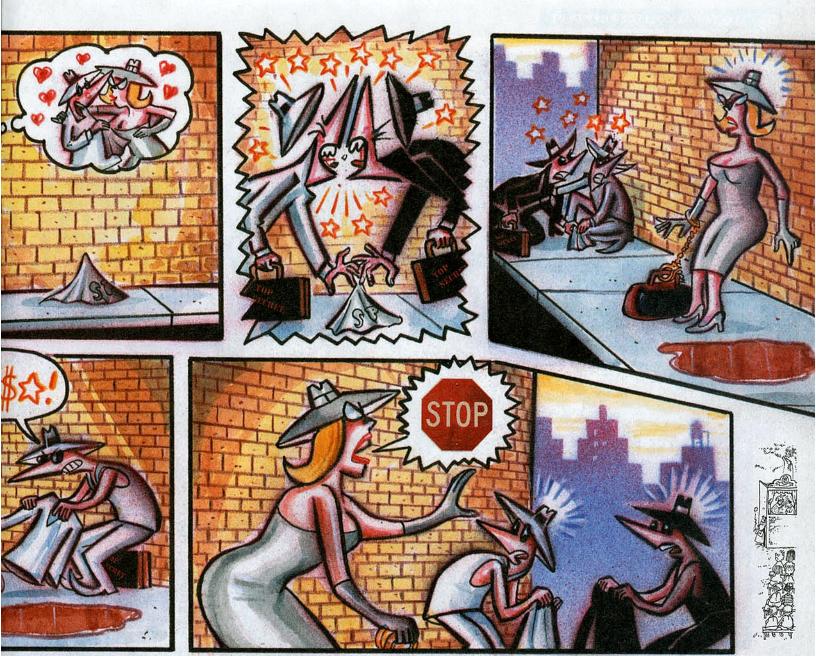


Writes off more than \$1,500 a year in lab monkey tobacco expenses when, in fact, he's been bumming his smokes since 2003.

WRITER AND ARTIST: JOHN CALDWELL

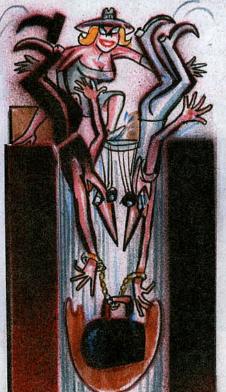














KUPER